



Howard County Council

George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043-4392

COUNCILMEMBERS

Mary Kay Sigaty, Chairperson
District 4
Jon Weinstein, Vice Chairperson
District 1
Calvin Ball
District 2
Jennifer Terrasa
District 3
Greg Fox
District 5

Minutes (approved)

Monthly Meeting

June 8, 2015

8:30 a.m.

C. Vernon Gray Conference Room

Members Present: Mary Kay Sigaty, Chair; Jon Weinstein, Vice Chair; Calvin Ball; Greg Fox; Jen Terrasa

Staff Present: Jessica Feldmark, Administrator; Craig Glendenning, County Auditor

The Chair opened the meeting at 8:32 a.m.

Task Force to Study Mulching, Composting, and Wood Processing: Zack Brendel, Richard Goldman, John Tegeris, Keith Ohlinger, Jeff Dannis, and Ted Mariani attended to present the task force's final report and discuss the recommendations offered within it. Discussion included scale of operations, setbacks, and percentage of site utilized for operations. Marsha McLaughlin discussed the layers of regulations at the State and County levels. The Chairperson discussed the process for the recommendations moving forward. She noted that, with the upcoming leadership transition in the Department of Planning and Zoning, the new Director will have to get up to speed on this issue, work through the recommendations, and propose new zoning regulations to address these uses.

Affordable Housing in Downtown Columbia: John DeWolf, Greg Fitchitt, Paul Casey, and Tom Carbo attended to discuss how to achieve affordable housing in Downtown Columbia. Mr. DeWolf opened by stating that the Howard Hughes Corporation recognizes the importance of a full spectrum of housing in the Downtown Columbia Plan and appreciates the sense of urgency expressed in CDHC's report to the Council. He committed that HHC will not submit any further plans for residential units until the issue of affordable housing is resolved. Mr. Fitchitt presented HHC's recommendations for achieving affordable housing in Downtown Columbia. Mr. Casey indicated that the CDHC board had not yet had an opportunity to discuss HHC's recommendations but would do so at its next meeting which is scheduled for June 17. HHC and CDHC agreed to continue working together for the next month to try to reach agreement on joint recommendations and report back to the Council at its next monthly meeting (July 13).

Council Member Reports: Dr. Ball asked Council Members to follow-up with Robin Regner regarding Zoning Board scheduling. Ms. Terrasa reminded Members to register for the summer MACo conference if they have not yet done so. Ms. Sigaty invited Members to participate in Bernie Fowler's annual Patuxent River Wade-In.

Staff Reports: Ms. Feldmark and Mr. Glendenning referenced their written reports.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.